

# Office of National Drug Control Policy

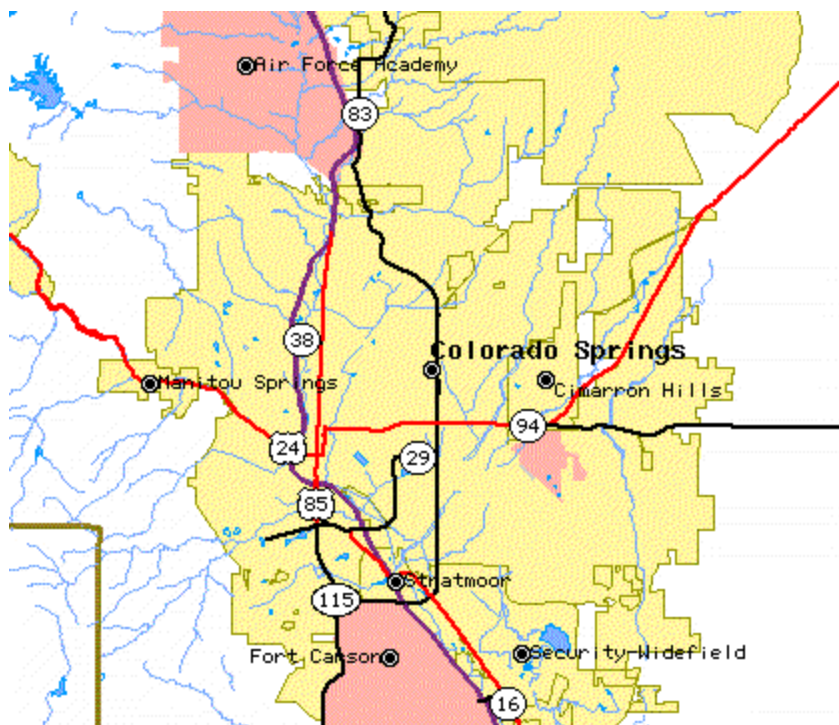
## Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

### Colorado Springs, Colorado

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#### Profile of Drug Indicators

May 2000



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

## **Colorado Springs**

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

### **Demographics<sup>1</sup>**

- Population: 323,185 (1996)
- Racial/Ethnic Breakdown: 86% White, 7.2% Black, 8.7% Hispanic, .8% American Indian, 2.5% Asian, 3.5% Other
- Unemployment Rate in January 1997: 4.3%
- Colorado Springs is located in El Paso County

### **Politics<sup>2</sup>**

- Mayor: Mary Lou Makepeace
- Vice Mayor: Leon Young
- District Representatives: James A. Null, Bill Guman, Leon Young, Linda Barley
- City Manager: Jim Mullen
- Chief of Police: Lorne C. Kramer

### **Programs/Initiatives**

- El Paso County is a participant in the Rocky Mountain HIDTA. Colorado Springs is the second biggest city in the HIDTA area. Programs in the Rocky Mountain HIDTA that directly involve Colorado Springs include:  
*Colorado Springs Metro Task Force (CSMTF)*  
CSMTF began operations during the first quarter of 1997. It is comprised of 34 officers derived from 7 different agencies that include the Colorado Springs Police Department, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, the Teller County Sheriff's Office, the Woodland Park Police Department, the Manitou Springs Police Department, the Fountain Police Department and the Internal Revenue Service. During FY1999 the CSMTF arrested 725 drug violators, dismantled 9 trafficking organizations, disrupted 3 street gangs and arrested 13 known gang members.
- The Colorado Springs Police Department set up the Apartment Managers' Hotline to assist apartment managers in obtaining information about incidents occurring on their property. The Crime Prevention Unit of the Sand Creek Division, one of three Patrol Divisions within the Colorado Springs Police Department, has held monthly meetings with apartment managers since 1994 to address issues in apartment complexes. In 1996, the Crime Prevention Unit discovered that 73 apartment complexes were responsible for 19% of the total calls for service in the Division from August 28, 1995 to August 28, 1996. Apartment managers were confronted by crime prevention personnel about their lack of action regarding problem tenants; particularly those involved in illegal narcotic transactions, crimes of violence, or calls of a repetitive nature.<sup>3</sup>

## Crime<sup>4</sup>

- The Colorado Springs Police Department employed 531 uniformed personnel and 228 civilians. The number of Index Crimes rose from 20,557 in 1997 to 20,992 in 1998.

### Offenses Known to Police, Colorado Springs January - June 1998-99

Offense	January-June 1998	January-June 1999
Homicide	3	12
Sex Offense - Force	265	262
Robbery	215	256
Aggravated Assault	561	548
Burglary	1,768	1,439
Theft-Larceny	7,293	6,145
Theft-Motor Vehicle	770	601
Arson	84	87
Narcotics	1,773	1,572

## Drugs<sup>5</sup>

- During 1995 a Household Telephone Survey on Adult Substance Abuse was conducted in Colorado. The survey found that 44.1% of adult residents in the Colorado Springs area had used marijuana at least once in their lifetime. The survey also found that 14.4% of Colorado Springs area adults had been diagnosed with an alcohol or drug problem in their lifetime, and that 8.5% were currently diagnosed with a drug or alcohol problem. The survey also found that 1.2% of the Colorado Springs area adults had tried heroin in their lifetime and 0.9% had tried it recently.

### Percent of Adults\*\* in the Colorado Springs Area Reporting Drug Use, 1995

Drug Type	Ever Used	In Last 18 Months	In Last 30 Days
Alcohol	94.5%	75.3%	54.6%
Marijuana	44.1%	8.4%	4.6%
Cocaine	12.7%	1.5%	0.1%
Hallucinogens	15.0%	2.1%	0.5%
Stimulants	9.9%	1.6%	0.1%
Inhalants	1.9%	0.9%	*

\*too few reported use to develop a reliable statistic

\*\*18 to 59 years of age

## Trafficking and Seizures

- During FY 1999 the El Paso County Sheriff Department's Metropolitan Vice, Narcotics, and Intelligence Unit executed 171 narcotics-related search warrants, obtained more than 200 arrest warrants, seized over \$4,446,667 worth of illegal narcotics, 89 weapons, and more than \$142,000 in cash.<sup>6</sup>

## Sources

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau Web site: <http://www.census.gov>

<sup>2</sup> Colorado Springs Web site: <http://www.colorado-springs.com/>

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<sup>3</sup> Colorado Springs Police Department Web site: <http://www.colorado-springs.com/police/index.htm>

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Colorado Department of Human Services, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, *Alcohol and Drug Use and Abuse in Colorado, 1995, 1996*

<sup>6</sup> El Paso County Sheriff's Office, *1999 Annual Report*, 2000

This State Profile was prepared by the ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is funded by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and is a component of the [National Criminal Justice Reference Service](#). For further information concerning the contents of this profile or other drug policy issues, contact:

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